

Arizona Federation of Weavers and Spinners, Inc.  
Board Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2018  
Chavez Library, Levee, AZ

The October 13, 2018 Board Meeting of the Arizona Federation of Weavers and Spinners was called to order by President, Debbi Brunner, at 1:55 PM.

Those in attendance were:

Gail Fuhrmann, TTFG; Esther Federman, Weavers West; Carol Byrne, Secretary, Weavers West; Mary Humme, Treasurer, Artistic Weavers; Debbi Brunner, President, VFAG; Kathleen Alves, VFAG; Lita Doesken, THS; Sus Bunker-Alvarado FANA

Guild reports preceded the business meeting.

Artistic Weavers Guild – Mary Humme

As AWG 127 members celebrate their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, they are busy with Beginners and Next Steps Classes. They are planning a Raw Materials workshop using recycled and found objects and a workshop with Tom Knisley.

Valley Fiber Arts – Kathleen Alves

The 130 members of Valley Fiber Arts have formed 10 Study Groups, which they have found promotes enhanced learning and present focused challenges. They are doing Community Outreach. In February they will have Robyn Spady for a workshop and In March, Jennifer Gould of Michigan will do a class on Dolls, printing and stamping. Their Basketry Study Group continues this year with a focus on pine needle baskets.

Tucson Handweavers and Spinners – Lita Doesken

At the September General Meeting each Study Group presents a report on their activities and projects. This is found to be very effective in sharing information and encouraging members to form and/or join Study Groups. They are planning weaving workshops with Tom Knisley and with David Johnson on Sumac Tapestry.

Twisted Threads Fiber Guild – Gail Fuhrmann

Located in the White Mountains, they meet year round with monthly meetings. They are looking at offering classes with Jane Hofman, Carol Barnsworth, who teaches weaving at the college level, Karma on color, and Gay for baskets. They are studying the steps of processing fiber, working with wool fleece, cotton, and flax. They have visited a cotton gin near Safford and a Wool processor west of Flagstaff.

Fiber Artists of Northern Arizona – Sus Bunker-Alvarez

FANA is now 2 ½ yrs. old and they have drafted their mission state and elected officers in May. They have 2 Study Groups and are participating in Community events to promote awareness and finance programs.

Weaver's West - Esther Federman

With 127 members, Weavers West has introduced some changes to attract and accommodate newer members as well as seasoned weavers. Rigid Heddle classes are full and have become a prerequisite to Beginning Weaving. New members find rigid heddle weaving to be an easy and rewarding introduction to the weaving process, in some cases they are satisfied to stay with that technology and in other cases find that it is an easy transition to beginning weaving and going forward. DVD's and U-tube are used as auxiliary teaching aids in both classes. This fall Ice Dyeing, Clay and Weave and Saori weaving taught by Laura Lundy classes will be offered. Each month Fix it Friday is offered to all members on various subjects such as triangle weaving and draft reading, and these programs are taught by our members. In addition, a monthly program is presented in conjunction with the business meeting. In February Robyn Spady will teach "Cutting Loose with Tied Weaves" and Fiberworks, and in March, Deborah Silver will teach "Split Shed Weaving".

### **BUSINEES MEETING**

A quorum was established.

The minutes of the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as distributed.

#### **Treasurers Report - Mary Humme**

Checking Balance as of March 1, 2018	\$12,044.68
Ending Balance as of September 2018	\$21,392.57
Savings Balance as of March 1, 2018	\$ 1,685.62
Interest gained each month at \$.04/month X 7 mo.	\$ .28
Ending Balance, September 31, 2018	\$ 1,685.91

It was noted that most of the deposits are Guild Dues and the withdrawals are for Teachers from Federation Day and Web Maintenance.

Other bank options offering higher interest are being investigated for the Savings Account. The bulk of the savings is the \$10,000.00 Harry and Olive Linder fund to benefit education.

A motion was made to invest the Linder Fund at a bank that offers higher interest rates. Motion carried.

There is also a Jean Gardner fund of \$1000.00 which has grown to \$1685.91 in savings. This had been used for Gallery show prizes, but is not currently being used.

Esther Federman will contact Phyl Cipolla regarding the history of these funds.

Guild Dues are \$1.00/member due on December 1.

The federation's status with the IRS and the State is paid up to date.

The insurance on the storage unit needs to be changed to the physical address in Phoenix.

The detailed Treasurer's report and other reports from the Treasurer are attached.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The Federation Day accounting is attached. Issues regarding raffle proceeds have been resolved, and AZ Federation suffered a loss of \$3,566.43. The Treasurer has all of the back up documentation. Over the summer there were investigations as to the plan to go forward that resulted in the following plans.

Events must be self-sustaining, educational, and well publicized. Possible venues for an event such as Federation Day in 2020 with pros and cons were presented:

Cultural Center in Pine – no break out rooms

Casinos- Honda, Twin Arrows, Cliff Castle and Mazatlan could all be possibilities.

Franciscan Renewal Center in Phoenix – 90 sleeping rooms @ \$140.00/single and \$85.00/double/night including 3 buffet style meals. There is no TV or phones in the sleeping rooms. If 10 sleeping rooms are booked, the break out rooms are free. There are 12 classroom style break out rooms form 500 to 1000 square feet. Something can be worked out for meals for commuters and they can accommodate a banquet.

However, we need to decide if we want an event such as the 2018 Federation Day, a larger or smaller event or no event for 2020 and how it would be managed. Debbie pointed out that it is very difficult to get volunteers from the directors for planning these events, and that more of that responsibility needs to be placed on the member guilds if we want to go forward with this type of event. The responsibility of the AZ Federation needs to focus on education and that of the directors to be facilitators and not the workers.

Federation needs to be revitalized to keep up with changing times. The Federation Day format of the past may obsolete and we need to find innovative ways to serve the membership. We need to offer support to Guilds in planning, advertising and funding local events, or individual guild events.

As an action plan for the January 12 meeting, we will formulate guidelines for a request for assistance and support form that guilds can submit to the AZ Federation. After discussion, a vote will be taken to implement this plan.

These events must provide an opportunity for like minded people to share outside the individual guild.

It was agreed that we need to go forward with the Traveling Teacher program, offering transportation to a teacher to travel from guild to guild for programs and workshops. The Rosalie Neilson program was very well received in 2018 and we are getting good response on Debra Silver for March of 2019.

A motion to accept Debra Silver as our traveling teacher was made and the motion carried.

We need to be thinking of a traveling teacher for 2020. A board member will be assigned to handle plans and scheduling for this program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A nominating committee for the 2020 election of a President and Secretary will be formed in January with the slate submitted in March and the vote taken in April via e-mail, and the new President and Secretary will assume office in June.

Lita Doskin reported that the Teacher Page on the Website has been updated with the teacher's names websites and links. An invitation to teachers to fill out a form to submit on line has be added. There is another page for upcoming events, and the website has been made easier to navigate. Guilds are requested to submit photos of projects for a new project sharing page.

Next meeting, January 12 at a place TBD.

The meeting was Adjourned at 4:06 PM.

Submitted by Carol Byrne, Secretary